

## Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

Swallows Nest Preschool are committed to making our setting inclusive to all children and making sure that children are able to reach their full potential. All children have a right to the Early Years Foundation Stage and all staff have a duty to meet the needs of all the children attending the setting.

Swallows Nest Preschool will have regard for the Children and Families Act 2014 Part 3 Code of Practice on the early identification and assessment of children with special education needs. SEND support is delivered through a graduated approach – assess, plan, do, review..

### Definition of children with SEND:

“A child has Special Educational Needs if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made for them”

A child has a learning difficulty if they:

Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age

### Or

Have a disability, which prevents or hinders the child from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within the area of the local educational authority

### Or

Are under five and falls within either of the two definitions above or would do if special educational provision was not made for that child. (Education Act 1996)

The Early Years Outcomes non-statutory guidance will be used to review the progress of all children. If concerns emerge, a targeted plan will be devised which may involve other professionals; the plan will indicate where good progress is being made, outline where additional support may be needed, and indicate where there is concern about possible developmental delay.

The targeted plan will describe activities and strategies being implemented to meet the child's needs.

### We aim to foster an environment where disabled children are:

- Seen as children first
- Fully accepted and integrated
- Encouraged and enabled to be as independent as possible
- Respected when care is of a private nature

**To meet the needs of all children including those with SEND, we consider the following issues:**

- Access
- Activities (planning and differentiating them)
- Staffing levels - making sure they are adequate to meet a child's needs
- Training of staff
- Resources and equipment (after consultation with parents)
- Challenging stereotypes and promoting positive attitudes amongst children and staff
- Individual programmes, monitoring of progress and record keeping

Swallows Nest Preschool will endeavor to ensure that all children are treated with equal concern and respect and encouraged to take part in the activities that are provided. We will assess every child's specific needs and take the relevant steps to adapt our facilities and activities to meet the needs of everyone.

Where a member of staff has concerns about the development of a child in one or more areas, this will be discussed with the child's parents/carers in order to decide on the best way to meet the child's current needs. If appropriate, an assessment for an individual programme called an Education, Health and Care Plan(EHCP) will be requested from the Local Authority. This will be reviewed on a regular basis with the parents/carers.

**Swallows Nest Preschool will ensure that:**

- The environment is suitable for disabled children and those with SEND
- Staffing arrangements meet the needs of individual children.
- Our written statement is available to parents and is consistent with current legislation.
- Children with special needs and disabilities have equality of access to facilities, activities and opportunities.
- Regular liaison takes place with parents and other professionals about the need for special equipment/services for children.

**The Role of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO)**

We have a named Special Educational Needs Coordinator. The SENDCO is responsible for monitoring the needs and progress of children with SEND. The SENDCO will ensure that liaison takes place with parents/carers and professionals and ensure that the setting is up to date with current legislation and practice.

The named SENDCO is Julia Coulson who will receive support when required from Kathryn Crosby, Chairperson.

The SENDCO is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff members are aware of the procedure if they have a concern about a child.
- Attending appropriate training and sharing this with the staff group
- Coordinating the provision for children with SEND within the setting.

The following members of staff have had SEND training:

February 2017

S.E.N.D.

Review date: 03/2018

Julia Coulson

**Admission arrangements:**

All children including those with identified SEND are admitted to the setting following discussions with parents/carers

***Partnership with Parents:***

- Staff will liaise with parents of children with SEND as often as needed
- Information on other support services (e.g. Parent Partnership) will be made available
- Outside agencies will be contacted with the permission of parents/carers as appropriate
- With permission of parents/carers outside agencies will be invited to observe children with SEND
- Transition arrangements to other schools may include staff volunteering at the new school to help the child to settle.

We do not contact other professionals about a child without parental consent unless there are concerns about Child Protection.